

Electronic Mail

DATE: June 2013

TO: Authorized Representatives of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) – Head Start Agencies

FROM: Amanda Kane, RDN, CD, Director
Community Nutrition Programs

SUBJECT: Free Meal Eligibility for Children in State Funded Head Start Slots; Waiver Extension for August 2013-July 2014

This letter is to inform you that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has approved Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's (WDPI) waiver extension request to allow children enrolled in Head Start Programs to be considered automatically eligible for free meals when their slots are partially or fully funded by the Head Start State Supplemental Grant Program. This extension continues without lapse from the previous year's approved waiver and is valid from August 1, 2013 through July 31, 2014.

Your agency may continue to consider any child enrolled in Head Start, including Early Head Start, as automatically eligible for free meals without further application or eligibility determination, whether the Head Start funding is federal or state. Other centers and sponsoring organizations that enroll Head Start children in their agency may obtain specific documentation from the Head Start administering agency to qualify the children as free based on their Head Start enrollment. Please give attention to State Agency Guidance Memorandum 1C (Revision July 2012), section "Eligibility of Children Enrolled in Head Start", for specific detail on the documentation required to be on file for all children enrolled in Head Start Programs in order to receive free meal reimbursement from the CACFP.

WDPI will continue to request waiver extensions from USDA on an annual basis. Please contact your assigned consultant with questions; a regional map showing each consultant's assigned region can be downloaded at: http://fns.dpi.wi.gov/fns_cacfpmap and each consultant's phone number and e-mail address is located within the directory at http://fns.dpi.wi.gov/fns_cntdirectory.

Thank you.